Microglial and Astrocyte Chemokines Regulate Monocyte Migration through the Blood-Brain Barrier in Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 Encephalitis

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The numbers of immune-activated brain mononuclear phagocytes (MPs) affect the progression of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-1-associated dementia (HAD). Such MPs originate, in measure, from a pool of circulating monocytes. To address the mechanism(s) for monocyte penetration across the bloodbrain barrier (BBB), we performed cross-validating laboratory, animal model, and human brain tissue investigations into HAD pathogenesis. First, an artificial BBB was constructed in which human brain microvascular endothelial and glial cells-astrocytes, microglia, and/or monocyte-derived macrophages (MDM)-were placed on opposite sides of a matrixcoated porous membrane. Second, a SCID mouse model of HIV-1 encephalitis (HIVE) was used to determine in vivo monocyte blood-to-brain migration. Third, immunohistochemical analyses of human HIVE tissue defined the relationships between astrogliosis, activation of microglia, virus infection, monocyte brain infiltration, and β -chemokine expression. The results, taken together, showed that HIV-1-infected microglia increased monocyte migration through an artificial BBB 2 to 3.5 times more than replicate numbers of MDM. In the HIVE SCID mice, a marked accumulation of murine MDM was found in areas surrounding virus-infected human microglia but not MDM. For human HIVE, microglial activation and virus infection correlated with astrogliosis, monocyte transendothelial migration, and β-chemokine expression. Pure cultures of virus-infected and activated microglia or astrocytes exposed to microglial conditioned media produced significant quantities of β -chemokines. We conclude that microglial activation alone and/or through its interactions with astrocytes induces β -chemokine-mediated monocyte migration in HAD. (*Am J Pathol 1999, 155:1599–1611*)

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-1-associated dementia (HAD) complex is defined as cognitive, motor, and/or behavioral impairments caused by progressive viral infection and immune deterioration. Neurological disease occurs in 15 to 20% of infected individuals and is often associated with a marked depletion of CD4-positive T lymphocytes.^{1–3} HIV-1 encephalitis (HIVE), a common pathological manifestation of HAD, is characterized by monocyte infiltration into brain, the formation of macrophage-derived multinucleated giant cells, microglial nodules, and myelin pallor.⁴⁻⁶ Other pathological features include decreased numbers of large neurons in the neocortex and deep gray matter, alterations in neuronal dendritic and synaptic processes, and astrogliosis.⁷ The principal target cells for virus are the mononuclear phagocytes (MP): microglia, perivascular brain macrophages, and multinucleated giant cells.⁶ It is the number of these cells in brain that correlates best with neurological dysfunction.⁸ Thus, MPs play an important role in HAD neuropathogenesis. Indeed, virus-infected immuneactivated MPs can secrete a variety of neurotoxic factors that affect disease progression in HAD. Such MP secretory factors include, but are not limited to, eicosanoids (arachidonic acid and its metabolites), guinolinic acid, platelet-activating factor, tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α), and nitric oxide (NO).⁹⁻¹³ The mechanisms that reg-

Accepted for publication July 28, 1999.

Supported in part by National Institutes of Health grants R29 Al42404– 01R29 (to Y. P.), K08 MH01552–01A1 (to J. L.), R01HL61951 (to K. S. K.), P01NS31492–01, R01NS34239–01, R01NS34239–02, R01NS36126–01, and P01MH57556–01, and the University of Nebraska Biotechnology Start Up Funds (to H. E. G.). A. G. and M. S. are Pediatric AIDS Foundation Scholars.

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ulate MP activation and secretions may also increase macrophage brain infiltration and thus lead to HAD.^{10,11,14-17}

After immune activation in the central nervous system (CNS), brain macrophages, microglia, and astrocytes also secrete chemotactic cytokines (chemokines). Both MPs and astrocytes are major cellular sources of CNS β -chemokines, which specifically regulate the transendothelial migration of monocytes into brain. The β -chemokines include macrophage inflammatory protein-1 α (MIP- 1α) and -1β (MIP- 1β); macrophage chemotactic protein (MCP)-1, MCP-2, and MCP-3; and regulated on activation normal T cell expressed and secreted (RANTES).¹⁸ Murine microglia produce significant levels of MIP-1 α after lipopolysaccharide (LPS) stimulation.¹⁹ Similarly, human microglia activated with LPS, TNF- α , or interleukin (IL)-1 β (IL-1 β) secrete significant amounts of MIP-1 α , MIP-1 β , and MCP-1.²⁰ Astrocytes produce MCP-1 after treatment with TNF- α , tumor growth factor- β (TGF- β),²¹ or HIV-1 Tat.²² In multiple sclerosis (MS), demyelinating-lesionreactive astrocytes produce MCP-1.23 Both human and simian astrocytes treated with TNF- α , interferon γ , and/or IL-1ß produce large quantities of MCP-1.^{24,25} Astrocytederived MCP-1 affects monocyte and lymphocyte bloodbrain barrier (BBB) migration.²⁴

Several reports have linked chemokines to the neuropathogenesis of HIVE. Schmidtmayerova and colleagues²⁶ showed that chemokine mRNAs are expressed in HIVE brain tissue cells with morphological features of macrophages/microglia. Both MIP-1 α and MIP-1 β were up-regulated in human monocyte-derived macrophages (MDM) after HIV-1 infection or treatment with TNF- α . MCP-1 was also detected in brains and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of patients with HAD.²² Astrocytes and neurons principally expressed MCP-1. In simian immunodeficiency virus encephalitis, MIP-1 α , MIP-1 β , RANTES, and inflammatory protein (IP)-10 were found in endothelial cells and/or perivascular macrophages.²⁷ Most recently, Sanders et al²⁸ demonstrated MCP-1 in microglia/macrophages, astrocytes, and endothelium in and around microglial nodules in HIVE-affected brain tissue. These reports, taken together, demonstrated that chemokines are up-regulated in encephalitic brain tissue. The cellular sources, functional significance, and effects of chemokines in monocyte BBB migration, however, remained ill defined. Several questions about how HIV-1infected monocytes gain entry into the brain remain unanswered. 1) What chemokines are produced by macrophages, astrocytes, and other brain cells? 2) Under what conditions are brain chemokines secreted? 3) Do microglial cells and astrocytes affect their own chemokine production and monocyte transendothelial brain migration? 4) Is there a correlation between chemokine production and immune activation in HIVE? To address these questions we used laboratory, animal model and human autopsy material to measure the cell source and function of chemokines during monocyte migration into the brain. The assays—an in vitro BBB system, an animal model of HIVE, and pathological analyses of postmortem brain tissue-were designed to cross-validate one another. The data independently showed that microglia and astrocytes are principal sources of β -chemokines and serve to control monocyte BBB migration in HAD. Conditioned media from HIV-1-infected and immune-activated microglia induced significant chemokine production from astrocytes. Importantly, in human HIVE, prominent microglial immune activation and, to a lesser extent, HIV-1 infection correlated with astrogliosis and macrophage brain infiltration. These results showed that microglial and astroglial activation in HAD are associated with monocyte transendothelial migration. These neuroimmune events are crucial components of the pathogenesis of HAD in its human host.

Materials and Methods

Microglia and Astrocytes

Fetal brain tissue (gestational age, 14–19 weeks) was obtained from elective abortions performed in full compliance with the ethical guidelines of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Microglia were isolated and characterized as previously described.²⁹ Adherent microglial cell preparations (>98% pure) were confirmed by CD68 and HAM-56 immunostaining. Human fetal astrocytes were prepared as previously described and were shown to be >99% pure by glial fibrillary acid protein (GFAP) immunostaining.³⁰

Monocytes

Peripheral blood mononuclear cells obtained from HIVand hepatitis B-seronegative donors by leukopheresis were purified by counter-current centrifugal elutriation.³¹ Cell suspensions were identified as >98% pure monocytes by Wright staining, nonspecific esterase, granular peroxidase, and CD68 immunostaining. Cells were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated pooled human serum, 10 μ g/ml ciprofloxacin (Sigma), 50 μ g/ml gentamicin (Sigma), and 1000 U/ml of macrophage colony-stimulating factor (a generous gift from Genetics Institute, Boston, MA). All reagents were prescreened and found negative for endotoxin (<10 pg/ml; Associates of Cape Cod, Woods Hole, MA) and mycoplasma contamination (Genprobe II, Gen-probe, San Diego, CA).

HIV-1 Infection of Microglia and Monocytes

Adherent monocytes and microglia were cultured in 96well plates at a density of 10^5 cells/well for 7 days before infection with HIV-1_{ADA} at a multiplicity of infection of 0.1. Monocytes and microglia in suspension were cultured in Teflon flasks at a density of 10^6 cells/ml for 7 days before viral infection. The cell-free viral inoculum used for each experiment was standardized for all experiments by reverse-transcriptase activity (2 × 10^5 cpm/ 10^6 cells) as described previously.³¹

Construction of the Three-Dimensional BBB Model

The BBB model was constructed on inserts with collagencoated polycarbonate in Transwell membrane (pore diameter, 3 μ m; Corning-Costar Corp., Cambridge, MA) as described.³⁰ Brain microvascular endothelial cells and human fetal astrocytes were placed, respectively, on the upper and lower surfaces of the membrane. In the constructs, the lower surface was coated with human fibronectin and seeded with 10⁵ astrocytes in an inverted position. After 2 hours to allow cell adherence, the construct was placed upright, and brain microvascular endothelial cells were subsequently inoculated (200 μ l of 10⁵ cells) into the upper chamber. These models were used for a minimum of 5 days after cell seeding, when they acquired high electrical resistance and negligible permeability for [³H] inulin.

Human MDM were cultured in Teflon flasks. The MDM (7×10^5) (HIV-1_{ADA}-infected or uninfected controls) were seeded on glass coverslips (Corning Costar, Cambridge, MA) and then placed on the bottoms of wells in 24-well Costar plates. In a similar fashion, 10^5 microglial cells (HIV-1_{ADA}-infected or uninfected controls) on coverslips were placed in the lower chambers of 24-well plates. The addition of the MDM or microglia to the BBB model permitted analysis of the ability of each macrophage cell type to affect monocyte transendothelial migration.

Transendothelial Migration of Monocytes in the BBB Model

To investigate penetration of fresh-blood-derived monocytes (from virus-negative donors) through the artificial BBB, 10^5 monocytes were placed in $100 \ \mu$ l of medium in the upper chambers of a 24-well tissue culture insert. At 48 hours, numbers of migrated monocytes were counted on the lower chamber coverslips. Because monocytes express high levels of peroxidase and low levels of acid phosphatase and have distinct morphology,³² monocytes were easily differentiated from MDM or microglia. Cells were counterstained with hematoxylin. A minimum of 20 random fields (objective ×20) of each coverslip was analyzed for migrated cells.

Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assays (ELISA) for TNF- α and Chemokines

TNF- α and the CC chemokines MIP-1 α , MIP-1 β , MCP-1, and RANTES were assayed by using the Quantikine ELISA kits (R&D Systems, Minneapolis, MN) and following the manufacturer's instructions. Cells were stimulated with LPS (1 μ g/ml), obtained from *Escherichia coli*, serotype 0111:B4 (Sigma), for 2 hours and were washed three times with media. Conditioned media from unstimulated or LPS-stimulated cells were collected at 24 hours, and chemokine levels were detected by ELISA. The levels of chemokines were normalized to cell numbers by measuring cell viability by the 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2yl)-2,5-di-

phenyl tetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay.³³ The normalized values of chemokines per 10⁵ cells were determined. These were analyzed statistically with the two-tailed Student's t-test. Experiments were repeated four times with cells derived from four different donors for both MDM and microglia. LPS-treated cells were used to mimic the immune activation of macrophages that occur in HAD.13 Astrocytes were cultured for 7 days as adherent monolayers on 96-well plates. Cells were plated at a density of 5 \times 10⁵ cells/well. Cultured fluids were obtained from control (uninfected) and HIV-1-infected MDM or microglia after LPS activation and were placed onto astrocytes for 2 hours. The cells were subsequently washed three times with medium. Conditioned medium was collected from the astrocytes 24 hours later, and chemokine levels were detected by ELISA.

SCID Mouse Model of HIVE

Male C.B-17/IcrCrI-SCID mice, 3 to 4 weeks old, were purchased from Charles River Laboratories (Wilmington, MA). Intracerebral injections of HIV-1_{ADA}-infected MDM (eight mice) or uninfected MDM (eight mice), uninfected microglia (six mice), or HIV-1_{ADA}-infected microglia (six mice) were performed with cells derived from two different donors.³⁴ Each animal was inoculated with 15 μ l of suspension containing 1.5 × 10⁵ cells or 15 μ l of culture medium (sham operated, four control mice). At 7 days postinoculation, all mice were sacrificed, and the whole brain was collected for neuropathological analysis.

Histopathology and Immunohistochemistry

Mouse brain tissue was fixed in 4% phosphate-buffered paraformaldehyde and was paraffin-embedded. Immunohistochemistry was performed on 5- μ m paraffin tissue sections. Human MDM/microglia were identified with anti-CD68 KP-1 (1:100; Dako) or antivimentin (1:50; Boehringer Mannheim, Indianapolis, IN) monoclonal antibodies (Abs). Mouse astrocytes were recognized with polyclonal Abs against GFAP (Dako; 1:1000 dilution). Mouse microglia/macrophages were identified with biotinylated Griffonia simplifolica Lectin-Isolectin B4 (Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, CA; 1:100 dilution). Anti-human leukocyte antigen clone CR3/43 (Boehringer Mannheim) and clone LN3 (Accurate Chemicals, New York, NY) at 1:25 and 1:40 dilutions, respectively, and HIV-1 p24 monoclonal Abs (Dako) at a 1:10 dilution were used to detect cellular activation and viral gene products. To detect primary Abs, avidin-biotin immunoperoxidase staining with a Vectastain Elite ABC kit (Vector Laboratories, Burlingame, CA) was used with 3,3'-diaminobenzidine as the chromogen. The sections were counterstained with Mayer's hematoxylin.

Brain Autopsy Materials

Brain tissue from 14 HIV-1-infected and 5 control cases (who were HIV-1 seronegative) were used for neuro-

Table 1.	Human	Brain	Tissues:	Clinical	and	Pathological	Descriptions
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Case no.	Age	AIDS*	HIVE [†]	Clinical and neuropathological diagnosis
1	37	+	+++‡	HIVE/progressive dementia
2	40	+	+++	HIVE/progressive dementia
3	42	+	+++	HIVE/encephalopathy
4	38	+	+++	HIVE/encephalopathy
5	45	+	++	HIVE/encephalopathy
6	37		++	HIVE/large cell lymphoma
7	8	+	++	HIVE/encephalopathy
8	12	+	++	HIVE
9	8	+	+	HIVE, disseminated Mycobacterium avium intracellulaire and Candida infection
10	4	+	_	HIV-1 infection
11	39	+	_	Cirrhosis, hepatitis C
12	34	+	_	Brain abscess (Nocardia asteroides)
13	51	+	_	Medullar infarction
14	36	+	_	Cytomegalovirus encephalitis
15	58	_	-	Chronic lymphoblastic leukemia
16	71	_	_	Squamous cell carcinoma of lung
17	65	-	-	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
18	79	_	_	Coronary artery disease
19	51	_	_	Hepatocellular carcinoma/altered mental status

*AIDS (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention definition of HIV-seropositive subject with CD4⁺ T lymphocytes < 200 mm³). *HIVE, HIV-1 encephalitis.

⁺+++, Severe HIVE, defined as expression of HLA-DR on 80–90% of microglia, HIV-1 infection of ramified microglia, formation of 1–2 microglial nodules and 25–50 infiltrating macrophages per five ×10 power fields, and abundant multinucleated cells; ++, moderate HIVE, defined as expression of HLA-DR on 20–70% of microglia, frequent multinucleated giant cells, 5–25 infiltrating macrophages per five ×10 power fields; and formation of 1–2 microglial nodules per 10–15 ×10 power fields; +, mild HIVE, defined as expression of HLA-DR on 10–15% of microglia, rare multinucleated cells, 3–5 CD68-positive infiltrating macrophages (per five ×10 power fields), and one microglial nodule (per 20 × 10 power fields).

pathological and immunohistological assessments. A concise description of clinical history pertaining to each of the brain samples is shown in Table 1. Immunohistochemical evaluation of macrophage infiltration, activation, level of infection, astrogliosis, and expression of chemokines was performed using monoclonal Abs to CD68, HAM-56, HLA-DR (CR3/43 and LN-3), GFAP, and HIV-1 p24 on paraffin-embedded tissue sections with the avidin-biotin immunoperoxidase Vectastain Elite ABC kit (Vector Laboratories).^{30,34} Double immunostainings were performed for chemokines MIP-1 α , MIP-1 β , MCP-1, and RANTES (LeukoSite Inc., Cambridge, MA) at a 1:50 to 1:100 dilution, and HAM-56 (macrophages/microglia) or GFAP (astrocytes) on frozen tissue sections by indirect immunofluorescence as previously described.^{29,30}

Computer Image and Statistical Analyses

Intensity of reactive astrocytosis was quantified as area occupied by GFAP-positive astrocytes on serial coronal paraffin sections of brains injected with HIV-1-infected MDM (six animals) or microglia (six animals) for 1 week. Image analysis was performed as previously described³⁴ with a cooled closed-circuit digital (CCD) camera (Photometrics, Tucson, AZ) mounted on a Nikon Microphot-FXA. Digital images were analyzed with the Oncor Image V1.6 (Oncor Inc., Gaithersburg, MD) computer image system. The scanned zone covered 1000 μ m medially and laterally from needle track on coronal sections. GFAP-immunostained areas were expressed as a percentage of the total brain area assayed. Differences between means were analyzed with a two-tailed Student's *t*-test.

Results

Microglia and MDM Differentially Affect Monocyte Migration through the BBB

Because the degree of HAD parallels the numbers of macrophages,⁸ we studied the conditions that affect monocyte entry into the brain. To this end we constructed an artificial BBB to evaluate monocyte transendothelial migration.³⁰ The transendothelial passage of monocytes (purified from peripheral blood leukocytes at the day of each experiment) was assessed after application of HIV-1-infected/uninfected MDM or microglia to the astrocyte (brain) side of the BBB model. Monocyte migration was measured at 48 hours after cell placement in two independent experiments. Twenty random fields (objective ×20) in each coverslip (experiments performed in duplicate) were assayed for peroxidase-positive monocytes. Microglia placed in the astrocyte compartment induced 2- to 3.5-fold greater monocyte migration across the BBB model (P < 0.004) than replicate numbers of MDM (Figure 1). HIV-1-infected microglia cells elicited a significant increase in monocyte migration compared to uninfected microglia (P < 0.013).

Comparison of Microglial, MDM, and Astrocyte-Secreted Chemokines and Cytokines

These initial results with our BBB model indicated that microglia are a major source of secretory factors affecting monocyte migration. To uncover what these factors might be, we measured chemokine secreted by MDM or

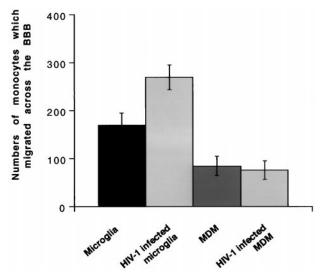


Figure 1. Effect of microglia/MDM on monocyte migration across a model of the BBB. HIV-1_{ADA}-infected/control uninfected MDM (7×10^5) or virus-infected/control microglia cells (10^5) were placed in the lower chamber. Fresh blood monocytes were applied to the upper chamber of the BBB model (10^5). Numbers reflect migrated monocytes attached to coverslips in the lower chamber at 48 hours. Twenty random fields (objective $\times 20$) of each coverslip were assayed. Experiments were performed in duplicate. Data presented (mean \pm SE) are from one of two independent experiments.

microglia after HIV-1 infection and activation (LPS stimulation). Culture media from control (unstimulated) or activated (LPS-stimulated) cells were collected at 24 hours, and chemokine levels were measured in culture fluids by ELISA. In both cell types (MDM and microglia), uninfected and HIV-infected cells activated with LPS led to the highest levels of chemokines and TNF- α .

TNF- α was not observed in MDM conditioned media. Unstimulated microglia (with or without HIV-1 infection) produced low levels of TNF- α (<20 pg/10⁵ cells). Cell activation significantly increased TNF- α secretion by both cell types. However, activated microglia produced 20fold more TNF- α than did replicate numbers of MDM (data not shown). High levels of MCP-1 were found in infected or uninfected microglia (Figure 2A). Activated uninfected or uninfected microglia produced nearly 13fold higher levels of MCP-1 than did MDM (Figure 2A). Moreover, microglia produced 10- to 20-fold higher levels of MIP-1 α and MIP-1 β (Figure 2, B and C) than did replicate virus-infected or uninfected MDM. LPS activation significantly increased MIP-1 α and MIP-1 β in both MDM and microglia (24- to 60-fold) with microglia producing 2- to 12-fold more than MDM. Unstimulated MDM and microglia produced 24 and 54 pg/10⁵ cells of RAN-TES, respectively (Figure 2D), the lowest levels of all chemokines studied. A 7- to 50-fold increase in RANTES was observed after LPS activation. In all cases, microglia produced more chemokines on a per-cell basis than did MDM (range of *P* values, <0.0001–0.0068).

It is interesting that these data were not concordant with the increased BBB monocyte migration shown with HIV-1-infected microglial cells in our BBB model. Such results likely reflect the ability of other cells of BBB (eg, astrocytes) to produce chemokines elicited by secretory products of MPs. Indeed, astrocytes treated with culture fluids from HIV-1-infected, LPS-activated MDM produced significantly more MIP-1 α than did supernatants from uninfected cells similarly activated (Tables 2 and 3). Only conditioned media from LPS-stimulated HIV-1-infected microglia were able to up-regulate MIP-1 β in astrocytes (twofold). Although RANTES was undetectable in astrocyte supernatants under most conditions, this chemokine was secreted by astrocytes treated with conditioned media derived from activated and HIV-1-infected MDM and microglia (Tables 2 and 3). Astrocytes produced MCP-1 in much higher amounts when compared with the other chemokines. As in microglia, MCP-1 was constitutively produced by astrocytes. Application of conditioned media from immune-stimulated MDM (with or without HIV-1 infection) up-regulated production of MCP-1 by astrocytes (1.4- and 1.5-fold, respectively; P < 0.016) when compared with unstimulated MDM. The most significant response was induced by supernatants of immune-activated HIV-1-infected microglia (1.9-fold, P = 0.005) as compared with uninfected microglia cells. Astrocytes treated by microglia supernatants produced similar or higher levels of chemokines compared with replicated numbers of MDM. Taken together, these results suggest complex intercellular interactions between microglia/ MDM and astrocytes for chemokine production. Both immune activation and HIV-1 infection of MP appear to contribute to significantly enhanced chemokine secretion and monocyte BBB transendothelial migration.

Monocyte Transendothelial Migration into Brains of SCID Mice with HIVE

To determine the possible proinflammatory and transendothelial migratory effects of resident brain macrophages in our SCID mouse model for HIV-1 encephalitis,34 human MDM and microglia (infected or uninfected) were stereotactically placed into SCID mouse brains. SCID mice received 15 μ l of suspension containing 1.5 \times 10⁵ HIV-1-infected or replicate uninfected microglia or MDM into the basal ganglia (the region of brain tissue most affected in humans). Mice inoculated with 15 μ l of monocyte culture media served as controls. At 7 days after MDM or microglial inoculation, neuropathological analyses were performed. Equal numbers of HIV-infected microglia and monocytes (15 to 30 cells/5- μ m section) were observed in the putamen (Figure 3, A and C). Nearly 80% of the MDM or microglia expressed HIV-1 p24 antigen, and up to one-third of the cells were multinucleated (Figure 3, C and D). CD68-positive cells were found in the cortex and basal ganglia around the site of injection. The majority of the microglia preserved their oval shape, resembling the activated ameboid cells commonly observed in HIVE. The injected microglia and the MDM were observed around microvessels, mimicking their distribution in HIVE. Because Griffonia simplicifolica lectin-isolectin B_4 detects mouse MDM or microglia, we could assess the numbers of migrating mouse macrophages into brain. An area of 200 μ m around the placement of human cells

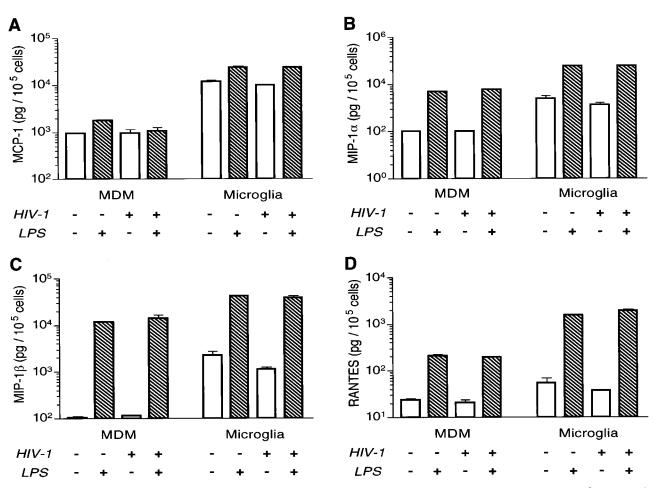


Figure 2. Production of chemokines by microglia and MDM. Adherent MDM and microglia were cultured on 96-well plates at a density of 10^5 and 5×10^4 cells/well, respectively, for 7 days before infection with HIV-1_{ADA} at multiplicity of infection of 0.1. Replicate microglia and monocytes were stimulated with LPS (1 g/ml), and culture fluids from infected or uninfected cells were collected 24 hours later. The MCP-1 (**A**), MIP-1 α (**B**), MIP-1 β (**C**), and RANTES (**D**) were assayed using the Quantikine ELISA kits (R&D Systems). The levels of chemokines were normalized to cell numbers by measuring cell viability at the end of the sample collection by the MTT assay. The normalized values of chemokines per 10⁵ cells were used to perform statistical analysis by the two-tailed Student's *t*-test. Data presented in a log scale (mean ± SE) are from one of two independent experiments. Comparison of microglia- *versus* MDM-treated similarly yielded statistically significant differences (P < 0.0001).

was examined to determine numbers of migrating murine monocytes. A pronounced accumulation of mouse monocytes and microglia was found in and around the location of virus-infected human microglia (Figure 3F). Here, 45.2 ± 3.2 or 28.7 ± 2.5 mouse MDM were found per power field ($\times 20$) in and around injection sites containing HIV-1-infected or uninfected microglia cells, respectively.

This was infrequently observed in mouse brains with HIV-1-infected MDM (Figure 3E). Significantly lower numbers of mouse MDM were identified by lectin staining as per replicate brain areas around human virus-infected MDM (10.7 \pm 1.1, P < 0.03 as compared with infected microglia) or uninfected MDM (5.3 \pm 0.6, P < 0.04 as compared with uninfected microglia).

Table 2.	β-Chemokines	Secreted by	y Human	Astrocytes a	fter Treatment	with	MDM-Conditioned Media
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Astrocytes treated with MCM*			Chemokines secreted	emokines secreted (pg/10 ⁵ cells)		
HIV	LPS	MCP-1	MIP-1α	MIP-1β	RANTES	
_	_	16,196 ± 652	230 ± 12	129 ± 2	ND [†]	
_	+	$24,424 \pm 794$	262 ± 8	208 ± 25	ND	
+	_	$15,463 \pm 190$	211 ± 5	121 ± 0.4	ND	
+	+	$23,077 \pm 379$	$489 \pm 23^{\ddagger}$	163 ± 15	3 ± 1	
Control (untreated)		$13,604 \pm 310$	228 ± 1	128 ± 0.5	ND	

Astrocytes, seeded at a density of 5 × 10⁵ cells/well in 96-well plates, were treated with supernatants derived from MDM (2 × 10⁶ cells/well) for 2 hours. New media were placed onto cells and collected 24 hours later. Results are the mean and SEM given in pg/10⁵ cells. *MCM, Monocyte-derived macrophage conditioned medium.

[†]ND. Not detectable.

[‡]Statistically significant difference as compared with similarly treated uninfected cells (P = 0.011).

Astrocytes treated with µCM*			Chemokines secreted	d (pg/10 ⁵ cells)	
HIV	LPS	MCP-1	MIP-1α	MIP-1β	RANTES
_	_	$15,139 \pm 950$	247 ± 10	139 ± 6	ND ⁺
_	+	20,264 ± 1866	239 ± 12	134 ± 7	ND
+	_	$17,887 \pm 134$	213 ± 5	129 ± 3	ND
+	+	29,011 ± 293 [‡]	$500 \pm 49^{\ddagger}$	$297 \pm 29^{\ddagger}$	21 ± 11
Control (untreated)	13,604 ± 310	228 ± 1	128 ± 0.5	ND

Table 3. β -Chemokines Secreted by Human Astrocytes after Treatment with Microglial-Conditioned Media

Astrocytes seeded at a density of 5×10^5 cells/well in 96-well plates were treated with supernatants derived from microglia (0.3×10^6 cells/well) for 2 hours. New media were placed onto cells and collected 24 hours later. Results are the mean and SEM given in pg/10⁵ cells.

*µCM, Microglial-conditioned medium.
*ND, Not detectable.

*Statistically significant difference as compared with similarly treated uninfected cells (P value range, from 0.032 to 0.044).

A prominent astrogliosis followed 7 days of microglia and MDM inoculation. The extent and intensity of the astrocyte reaction were more prevalent in mouse brains with HIV-infected microglia as compared with MDM. This was confirmed by computer-directed image analyses (Figure 3, G and H). GFAP immunoreactivity (indicating reactive astrogliosis) measured in the area of the HIVinfected microglia was significantly higher in the putamen $(16.9 \pm 0.86\%)$ as compared with areas around human MDM (11.80 \pm 0.53%, P < 0.02). The features of the reactive astrogliosis (due to introduction of virus-infected microglia/MDM) included astrocyte accumulation/proliferation and hypertrophy with prominence of long and thick cytoplasmic processes. There was no accumulation of murine macrophages in the brains of control (mediainoculated) animals, and only a moderate increase of GFAP immunostaining was detected in astrocytes along the needle track (data not shown).

Relationship between Inflammatory Markers and Neuropathology in HIVE

To analyze the role of microglia in HIV-1 neuropathogenesis, we evaluated postmortem brain tissue from nine patients with HIVE of different intensity, five HIV-1-seropositive patients without evidence of HIVE, and five seronegative individuals (Table 1). Neuropathological features of severe HIVE (cases 1 to 4) included 1) a pronounced infiltration of CD68-positive MDM into the brain parenchyma (25 to 50 cells/five $\times 10$ power fields) (Figure 4A), 2) formation of 1 to 2 microglial nodules composed of ramified and ameboid microglia cells per five $10 \times$ power fields (Figure 4A), 3) signs of microglia activation (increased amount of cytoplasm and few short processes), and 4) diffuse astrogliosis (see below). Microglia cells with thin long processes were HIV-1 p24positive (HIVE cases 1 to 4; Figure 4B). Most microglia cells (80 to 90% within nodules or directly outside of them) showed strong positive immunostaining for HLA-DR in white matter, suggesting diffuse immune activation in cases of significant HIVE (Figure 4C). Activated microglia cells with few thick processes and round or elongated bodies were found in gray matter in severe

HIVE. Up to 30% of them expressed HLA-DR. In cases of severe HIVE, HIV-1 p24-positive multinucleated cells had long cell processes, which suggested that part of fused giant macrophages had arisen from microglia. They were present around microvessels and within neuropil in the central white matter of the cerebral hemispheres, thalamus, and basal ganglia (Figure 4E). These multinucleated cells were immune activated (HLA-DR positive), and their localization corresponded to the areas of most intensive monocyte infiltration and microglial nodule formation (Figure 4F). Moderate HIVE (cases 5 to 8) was characterized by expression of HLA-DR on 20 to 70% of microglia in white matter and <5% in gray matter; frequent multinucleated giant cells; 5 to 25 infiltrating macrophages per five (\times 10 power) fields, and formation of 1 to 2 microglial nodules/10 to 15 (\times 10 power) fields.

HIVE characterized by minimal macrophage brain infiltration (no more than 3 to 5 CD68-positive MDM per five \times 10 power fields) and rare microglial modules (1 per 20 $\times 10$ power fields) was observed in case 9. This is referred to as mild encephalitis. Occasional multinucleated giant cells were present around microvessels and were HIV-1 p24 positive (data not shown). Accumulation of microglia was less prominent in the brain tissue with mild HIVE, and only rare microglial cells (10 to 15%) expressed HLA-DR in white matter only. In addition, ramified microglia cells did not contain virus antigen. Diffuse astrogliosis (identified as accumulation and proliferation of GFAP-positive hypertrophied astrocytes) was evident in different areas but especially prominent in zones most affected by MDM infiltration and microglial nodule formation in severe HIVE (Figure 4D), whereas astrocyte reaction was less obvious in mild HIVE.

Brain tissue derived from HIV-1-seropositive subjects without HIVE showed limited pathology (anoxic damage and/or hemorrhage). Case 14 showed signs of CMV encephalitis characterized by amphophilic intranuclear inclusions (case 14). Macrophage infiltration, p24 antigen positivity, or multinucleated giant cells were absent. There were no signs or minimal evidence of immune activation in microglial cells (apart from focal lesions). Less than 10% of microglial cells expressed HLA-DR in

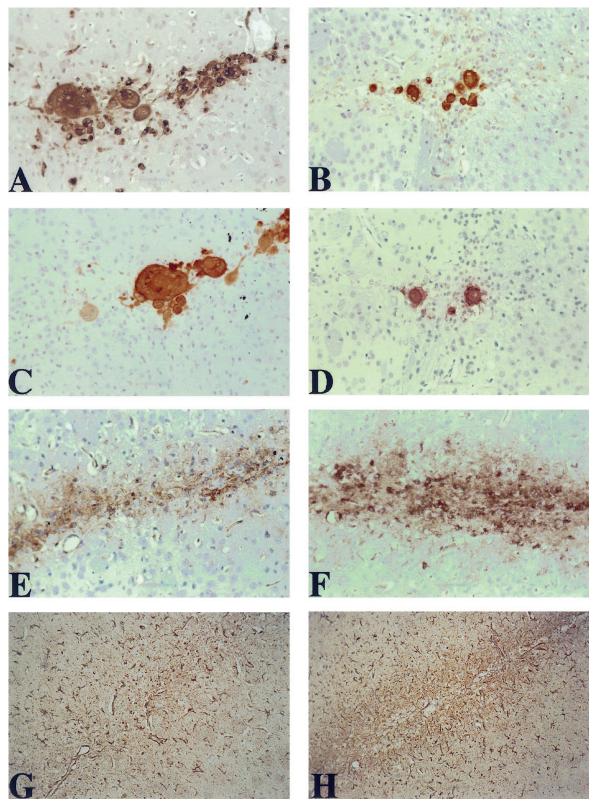


Figure 3. Microglia-mediated changes in SCID mice with HIV-1 encephalitis. Equal numbers of HIV-1-infected MDM (**A**) and microglia (**B**) were stereotactically inoculated into basal ganglia. Both MDM (**C**) and microglia (**D**) express high levels of HIV-1 p24 antigen in their cytoplasm. Pronounced accumulation of mouse macrophages and microglia is found in and around the location of virus-infected human microglia (**F**). This is infrequently observed in mouse brains with HIV-1-infected MDM (**E**). More pronounced astrogliosis (GFAP immunostaining) is detected in areas contained microglia (**H**) as compared with MDM (**G**). **A–D**, **G** and **H** and **G** and **B**, **D**, and **H** present serial coronal sections immunostained with anti-CD68 (**A** and **B**), HIV-1 p24 (**C** and **D**), and GFAP antibodies (**G** and **H**). **E** and **F** are stained with biotinylated *Griffonia simplicifolica* lectin-isolectin B₄. Primary Abs or lectin-stained cells are detected by Vectastain Elite Kit with DAB as a substrate. Tissue sections were counterstained with Mayer's hematoxylin. Original magnifications, ×200 (**A-F**) and ×100 (**G** and **H**).

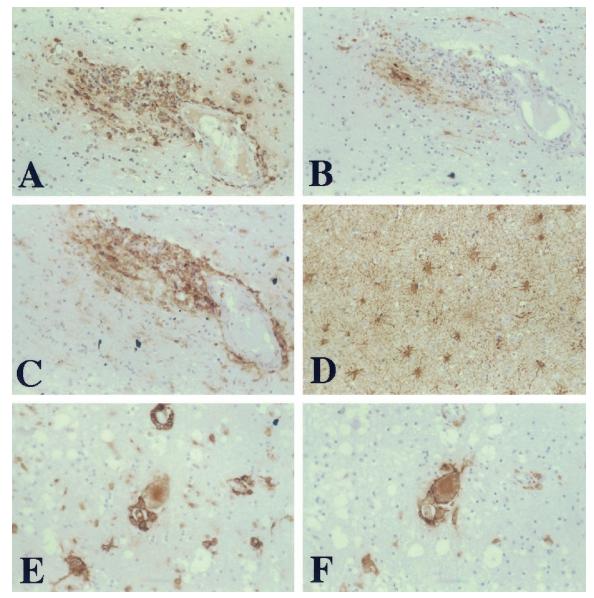


Figure 4. HIV-1 infection and immune activation of microglia in HIVE. Significant accumulation of monocytes (CD68-positive) around microvessels in the subcortical white matter (**A**) coincides with HIV-1 infection of microglia (HIV-1 p24 positive) (**B**) and its immune activation (as detected by HLA-DR expression) (**C**). Same areas of the brain tissue are characterized by prominent astrogliosis as identified by GFAP immunoreactivity (**D**). HIV-1-infected multinucleated giant cells (**E**) express markers of immune activation (HLA-DR-positive, **F**) and are especially prominent in zones of significant monocyte infiltration. **A-D** and **E-F** present serial sections of brain tissue from cases 1 and 2, respectively. Sections are immunostained with anti-CD68 (**A**), HIV-1 p24 (**B** and **E**), HLA-DR (**C** and **F**), and GFAP antibodies (**D**). Primary Abs are detected by Vectastain Elite Kit with DAB as a substrate. Tissue sections were counterstained with Mayer's hematoxylin. Original magnification, ×200.

white matter. Brain tissue derived from control HIV-negative patients (Table 1) showed nonspecific changes with minimal expression of HLA-DR in <10% of microglia located in white matter.

Evidence for increased chemokine expression in HIVE was shown by double immunostaining for chemokines and cellular markers in severe and, to a lesser degree, moderate HIVE. MCP-1 was identified in the cytoplasm of macrophages and microglial cells in microglial nodules and individual microglial cells in the neuropil (Figure 5A). Astrocytes expressed MCP-1 in the areas of most prominent macrophage infiltration and microglial nodule for-

mation (Figure 5C). Vascular end feet of astrocytes surrounding microvessels expressed MCP-1 in HIVE. MIP-1 α and, to a lesser extent, RANTES were expressed in microglia and astrocytes throughout the white matter and were associated with microglial nodules in HIVE. Moderate MIP-1 β immunostaining was associated with cytoplasm of astrocytes around microglial nodules. Brain tissue from HIV-positive patients without HIVE showed occasional microglial and astrocytic cells expressing MCP-1 and MIP-1 α . Chemokines were not detected in control (HIV-1 negative) brains (without HIV-1 infection) (Figure 5B,D). In toto, analysis of human brain tissue

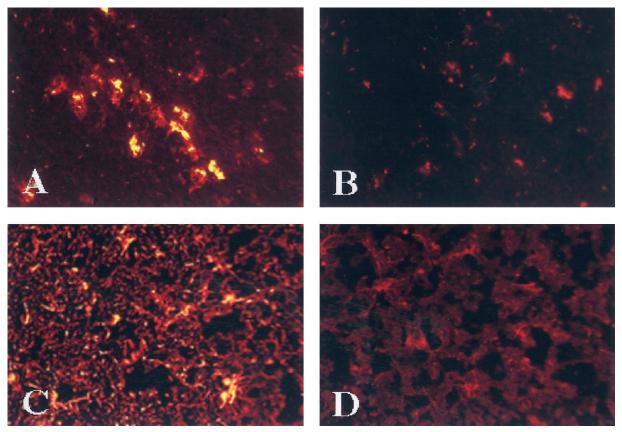


Figure 5. Microglia and reactive astrocytes express MCP-1 in HIVE. In severe HIVE (case 3), microglial cells (red) expressing MCP-1 (green) are stained yellow in microglial nodules (**A**) whereas control brain tissue (case 16) without HIV-1 infection shows no MCP-1 in microglia (red; **B**). Part of reactive astrocytes (red) in severe HIVE (case 3) express MCP-1 (green) resulting in yellow cytoplasmic staining, whereas astrocytes (red) are MCP-1-negative in controls (case 16). MCP-1 and microglia are identified by double immunolabeling on frozen sections with antibodies to MCP-1 (fluoroscein isothiocyanate) and HAM-56 (TRITC) (**A** and **B**), respectively. MCP-1 expression in astrocytes was detected with antibodies to MCP-1 (fluoroscein isothiocyanate) and GFAP (rhodamine) (**C** and **D**). Antigen expression was detected by indirect immunofluorescence. Original magnification, $\times 200$.

showed that HIVE was associated with viral infection, microglial activation, MDM brain infiltration, astrogliosis, and β -chemokine expression.

Discussion

We used an artificial BBB system, primary cell cultures (MDM, microglia, astrocytes), an animal model of HIVE, and human autopsy tissue to investigate the mechanisms for monocyte brain transendothelial migration during HAD. HIV-infected microglia elicited the greatest monocyte migratory response in our BBB model. In cell cultures, activated microglia produced significantly more chemokines than did similar numbers of MDM. HIV-1 infection did not change chemokine secretory activities in immune-stimulated MDM/microglia. Placement of infected macrophage fluids onto primary human fetal astrocytes significantly up-regulated astroglia chemokines, principally MCP-1. Indeed, astrocytes (treated with supernatants from infected/activated microglia) were a rich source of *B*-chemokines. A marked accumulation of mouse MDM with concomitant astrogliosis was seen in areas surrounding virus-infected human microglia in SCID mice with HIVE. In human HIVE, microglial activation and virus infection was associated with prominent

astrogliosis, macrophage infiltration, and β -chemokine expression in affected brain tissue. Cross-validating results obtained in laboratory and animal model systems, together with the supporting data obtained from human brain tissue analyses, strongly support a role of microglial activation in the neuropathogenesis of HAD. Such results support a role for intercellular glial interactions in the neuropathogenesis of HAD.9,12 Nonetheless, alternative interpretations of the data set need also be considered. For example, developmental factors could account for some of the observed differences between our microglia and MDM cultures. Currently we are testing adult microglia in replicate assays as shown in this report. If any age-related effects will be demonstrated for microglial infection and activation, this could provide at least one explanation for the differential susceptibility of the developing brain for HIV-1 infection and its associated neural iniurv.

Despite more than a decade of work exploring how HIV-1 affects the human brain, the specific role of microglia in HAD remains uncertain. In other neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease,^{35,36} MS,³⁷ stroke,³⁸ and Parkinson's disease, the importance of microglial activation in the pathogenesis appears more obvious.³⁹ Microglia activation (demonstrated by HLA-DR immunoreactivity)⁴⁰⁻⁴² and the concomitant secretion of cytokines and chemokines could be crucial events in HIV-1 neuropathogenesis. Microglial nodules are detected perivascularly, and in HIVE are associated with perivascular cuffs of macrophages, suggesting local production of chemokines. Neuropathological analysis of HIVE brain tissue showed a direct relationship between microglial HLA-DR expression, the intensity of macrophage infiltration, and microglial nodule formation (markers of HIVE severity). The levels of virus infection of ramified microglia correlated with HLA-DR expression, transition of microglia from ramified to ameboid morphology, and the formation of microglial nodules. The severity of HIVE (characterized by HIV-1 infection and immune activation of microglia) correlated with B-chemokine expression and macrophage infiltration. Recently, Sanders et al²⁸ reported an association between HLA-DR and chemokine antigen expression. In this report, a prominent astrogliosis was observed in HIVE, which followed the distribution of microglial nodules and the numbers of infiltrated macrophages. Such interrelationships between tissue pathology and macrophage activation support the importance of glial interplay in HAD pathogenesis. The significance of macrophage-astrocyte interactions was also confirmed in our experiments in which fluids from immune-stimulated MDM/microglia elicited a significant β -chemokine secretion in astrocytes (Tables 2 and 3). The significance of microglial activation in HIVE was underscored by its demonstrated relationship to neurological impairments (Table 1).

These works explore the regulation of chemokines by immune-stimulated and virus-infected microglia. Moreover, important secretory differences in MP function were demonstrated between microglia and MDM. For example, microglial cells secreted significantly more TNF- α and β -chemokines (MIP-1 α , MIP-1 β , MCP-1, and RAN-TES) than equal numbers of MDM. Immune activation further enhanced chemokine production. Furthermore, supernatants from HIV-1-infected, immune-stimulated microglia elicited significant levels of MCP-1 in astrocytes. The augmented production of MCP-1 by microglia and astrocytes, as compared with other chemokines, may help to explain the selective migration of monocytes into brain in HIVE. The functional importance of microglial and/or astrocyte MCP-1 was confirmed both in the BBB and SCID mouse models of HIVE. Human microglia (particularly those HIV-1 infected) enhanced monocyte migration in both model systems. Moreover, the accumulation of mouse monocytes in brains of SCID mice injected with virus-infected microglia was accompanied by a marked astrogliosis reflecting a relationship between monocyte infiltration and brain injury.

In previous works, attempts to correlate virus-infected microglia with disease progression were inconclusive.^{8,43–45} MPs were grouped together, as a homogenous cell unit. The production of neurotoxins by microglia and brain macrophages was suggested as a major but indirect pathogenetic factor in HAD.³ Our previous works, however, suggested that both cell types (microglia and macrophages) have unique functions. In this regard, difuse microglia activation in HAD may explain a paradox:

how relatively small numbers of infected perivascular macrophages can produce widespread neurological dysfunction. For example, activation of microglia and diffuse microgliosis were previously shown to correlate with ventricular expansion and neuropathological changes in HAD.^{15,46,47}

The discordance, in select patients, between the level of pathology and the clinical course of disease may be related to several factors. These include genetic susceptibilities to dementia in patient subpopulations, peripheral immune activation, and limitations of autopsy tissue analyses. The examination of brain tissue at one point in time may not reflect dynamic events that occur continuously over time. Increased permeability of the BBB and enhanced access of neurotoxins into the CNS could explain the discordance between limited brain pathology and the clinical course in some HAD patients. Indeed, in a patient with severe HAD, levels of macrophage-secreted neurotoxins (quinolinic acid, TNF- α , and NO) in the peripheral blood were higher than in CSF.⁴⁸ How activated microglia and reactive astrocytes can affect functional tightness of BBB is currently under investigation in our laboratories.

It is clear that microglia play an important role in the inflammatory responses associated with nervous system dysfunction during progressive HIV-1 infection and in other neurodegenerative disorders.⁴⁹ Microglia are the primary cell type to respond to injury in the CNS. Microglial activation in response to a stimulus includes proliferation, recruitment, and differentiation into phagocytic cells. Activated microglia express major histocompatibility complex class I and II antigens and adhesion molecules, and they secrete cytokines, numerous immunemodulatory molecules. and reactive oxygen intermediates. It is these abilities that permit the microglial cell to play a unique role in brain injury and inflammatory responses as well as in the regulation of normal CNS homeostasis.⁵⁰⁻⁵⁴ Understanding the means by which microglial cells produce neurotoxin or neurotrophic activities may certainly prove to be critical for deciphering the neuropathogenic mechanisms in a broad range of neurodegenerative disorders.

MCP-1 was the principal microglia- and astrocyte-secreted chemokine demonstrated in these experimental works. The contribution of MCP-1 to monocyte migration into brain is supported by a number of studies including animal models for brain injury (brain trauma, neuronal damage induced by kainic acid, and cerebral ischemia).^{37,38} Expression of MCP-1 and other β -chemokines was found in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis, a model for MS.^{55–57} Furthermore, in MCP-1-transgenic mice, mononuclear cell infiltrates are found in brain parenchyma only at times of maximal chemokine expression.⁵⁸ MCP-1 is the most potent chemoattractant for monocytes,⁵⁹ and it is readily seen in the CSF of patients with HAD.²² Thus, the likely importance of MCP-1 production is obvious in HAD pathogenesis.

In recent years, divergent studies on the neuropathogenesis of HAD have begun to tie together, suggesting a common immune mechanism for this apparent metabolic encephalopathy. In a patient with severe HAD, highly active antiretroviral therapy combined with anti-inflammatory treatment significantly ameliorated the clinical neurological deficit while markedly diminishing viral load and macrophage-secreted neurotoxins (quinolinic acid, TNF- α , and NO) in the peripheral blood and CSF.⁴⁸ Recently, expression of the chemokine receptor CXCR4 (a coreceptor for lymphotropic HIV-1 strains) has been found on a number of brain cells, including neurons, astrocytes, and microglia.60-62 Astrocyte production of SDF-1 (the ligand for CXCR4) also attests to the importance of glial activation and astrocytosis in the HAD pathogenesis.⁶³ Binding of viral proteins (gp120) and SDF-1 to CXCR4 expressed on neurons could be a pathway for the neuronal apoptosis, suggesting an additional mechanism for neurodegeneration developed in HAD and HIVE.63,64 These observations, taken together with those in this report, strongly support the idea that HAD is a metabolic encephalopathy fueled by viral replication and immune activation of macrophages and astrocytes. The heterogeneity in MP secretory functions and their interaction with other glial cells certainly play important roles in the pathogenesis of HAD and its associated encephalitis. Certainly, the mechanisms mediating the recruitment of monocytes into the brain, as demonstrated in this work, underscore the importance of MP transendothelial migration for expanding the viral reservoir and for regulating MP neurotoxic activities in HAD.

Acknowledgments

We thank Ms. Julie Ditter and Robin Taylor for excellent editorial support. We thank Dr. Charles Mackay (Leuko-Site, Inc.) for the beta chemokine antibodies. Special thanks go to Drs. Leroy Sharer and Rodney McComb for neuropathological tissue and helpful discussions.

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